

Response

Applicant: Rory A. Heim et al.

Serial No.: 09/851,765

Filed: May 9, 2001

Docket No.: 10006454-1

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COMPENSATING FOR INK CONTAINER EXTRACTION CHARACTERISTICS

extraction characteristics of the replaceable ink container, wherein each print mode of the plurality of different print modes has a different pause value associated therewith.

4. The inkjet printing system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of different ink usage rate print modes includes at least a first printing mode with a first ink usage rate and at least a second printing mode with a second ink usage rate different from the first ink usage rate.

5. The inkjet printing system of claim 1 wherein the replaceable ink container has ink extraction characteristics that vary with the ink level within the replaceable ink container.

6. The inkjet printing system of claim 1 wherein the replaceable ink container has a gauge pressure characteristic based on ink usage which varies with ink level within the ink container.

7. The inkjet printing system of claim 1 wherein ink extraction characteristics are stored on an electrical storage device associated with the replaceable ink container, and wherein the ink extraction characteristics are provided to the control device after installation of the replaceable ink container into the inkjet printing system.

8. The inkjet printing system of claim 7 wherein the information storage device is a semiconductor storage device.

9. An inkjet printing system having a printhead responsive to control signals for depositing ink on media and an ink delivery system for delivering ink to the printhead, the inkjet printing system comprising:

a monitoring and control device for monitoring ink delivered to the printhead by the ink delivery system, and for adjusting rate of ink extraction from the ink delivery system during a print operation based on ink deposited on media and ink delivered to the printhead.

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10. The inkjet printing system of claim 9 wherein the monitoring and control device adjusts rate of ink extraction from the ink delivery system based on a rate of ink deposited on media and a rate of ink delivered to the printhead.

11. The inkjet printing system of claim 9 wherein the monitoring and control device determines ink delivered to the printhead based on ink extraction characteristics of an ink container.

12. The inkjet printing system of claim 11 wherein the monitoring and control device determines an amount of ink delivered to the printhead over a given time interval based on an extraction rate for an ink container that is determined based on ink remaining in the ink container.

13. The inkjet printing system of claim 9 wherein the monitoring and control device adjusts rate of ink extraction from the ink delivery system to prevent the rate of ink extraction from the ink delivery system from exceeding a rate of ink ejected from the printhead by more than a threshold value.

14. The inkjet printing system of claim 9 wherein the monitoring and control device adjusts rate of ink extraction from the ink delivery system by selectively pausing printing to reduce an average rate of ink extraction from the ink delivery system.

15. The inkjet printing system of claim 9 wherein the monitoring and control device adjusts rate of ink extraction from the ink delivery system by selectively controlling numbers of nozzles activated.

16. A method for operating a printing system having a printhead and a supply of ink separate from the printhead, the method comprising:

determining ink flow from the printhead;
determining ink flow into the printhead; and

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adjusting a rate of ink extraction from the supply of ink during a print operation if the ink flow from the printhead exceeds ink flow into the printhead by a threshold amount.

17. The method claim 16 wherein the determining ink flow from the printhead is based on drop counting.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein the determining ink flow into the printhead is based on ink extraction characteristics of the supply of ink.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the determining ink flow into the printhead is based on ink level within the supply of ink.

20. The method of claim 16 wherein the adjusting the rate of ink extraction from the supply of ink is selectively inserting a pause between successive print swaths to reduce an average rate of ink extraction from the supply of ink for successive print swaths.

21. The method of claim 16 wherein the adjusting the rate of ink extraction from the supply of ink is selectively limiting the number of nozzles activated on the printhead.